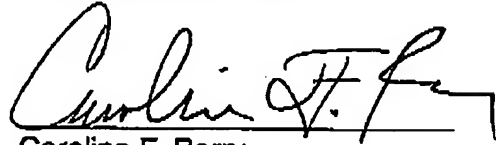


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REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 14 are cancelled. Claims 17-26 are allowed. Claims 9-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,439,760 issued to Howard. Howard fails to disclose, teach or suggest "an adhesive connecting the pouch of separator material and the electrode assembly" as in claim 9. Withdrawal of the instant rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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10/14/05
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